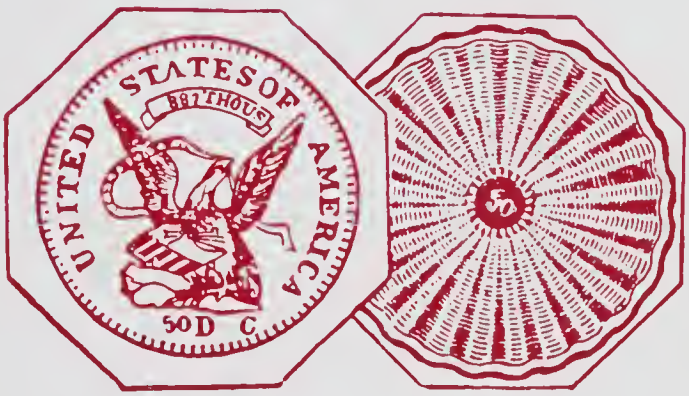
# N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY




Published each
January — April — July — October

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ERIC G. WARNER

Offical Publication of the
***Numismatic Association of Southern California***

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Coins Are the Pearls on the Threads of History'

# N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

OF THE

*NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA*

Eric G. Warner
Editor

N. E. Wilson
Asst. Ed.

ol. 2 July - 1960 No. 2

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Time flies on swift wings. Summer is here, and it time for another talk with my good friends in the mismatic Association of Southern California.

This month I wish to bring up a serious subject.

All successful clubs must be motivated by continuing forts to accomplish worthwhile projects which will of benefit to their constituents. Such a project, ar to the hearts of all numismatists, is the resump- n of the issuance of commemorative coins.

Great events are transpiring daily - events which uld, and should be indelibly impressed upon our his - ry by our commemorative coinage, as has been the se in most of the world's great civilizations.

Members of your board have decided it is time to do something along this line.

The following letter was written to a number of congressmen, and to some numismatic papers, in an effort to excite some promotional activity toward this restoration.

We have recieved to date some very encouraging replies from the congressmen which we have contacted.

I am printing this letter as a sample which each of you, interested in this project, could use as a guide to contact those in authority. Tell them in your own words why you want the return of commemorative coinage.

It will take a strong concerted effort to gain the status now held by philatelists as recipients of commemoratives.

Each of our member clubs could help to a large degree by their efforts.

Would you like to see Commemoratives back?

Here is the letter:

Honorable John Doe,
Congressman,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir;

This letter is being written to Congressmen in Washington after several long and earnest discussions by the board of governors of the Numismatic Association of Southern California, which is the largest regional coin club in the United States.

As you probably know, the American Numismatic Association was chartered by an act of Congress on May 12, 1912. We think it would be only fitting, therefore, for Congress to once again issue commemorative coins for the benefit of posterity.

For your information, coin collecting is America's astest-growing hobby, rapidly overtaking philately. There are literally millions of people in this country who collect coins to some degree for relaxation and pleasure. These collectors have been deprived of commemorative coins by the recent administrations in Washington, and we, as a club, have decided it is time we do some investigating as to why we have not had favorable action on bills introduced to commemorate events in our history. We would like to see these historical events handed down to posterity in the form of commemorative coins.

Among events which should be commemorated in just the past year are the admissions of our 49th and 50th states, Alaska and Hawaii; and different events in our conquest of space, all of which if preserved in uncirculated and cherished commemorative coins, would add to the glory of our history for our coming generations.

We are anxious to determine which of our legislators will help us in arriving at our goal of re-establishing the issuance of these commemorative coins.

Please let us hear from you concerning your attitude on our request.

Also we would be glad to have your advice as to what procedure we might take to help restore commemorative coinage.

Very truly yours,

Numismatic Association of Southern Calif.

Ben W. Williams, President.

Editor's Note; The foregoing letter is submitted by Mr. Williams with the hope that all coin clubs, as well as individual collectors, will write at once to their Congressmen and Senators urging restoration of commemorative coinage.)

# NUMISMATIC PERSONALITIES

By E. Carolyn Nestrick
& Karl M. Brainard

BILL FANNING

There is a saying, "You meet the nicest people in numismatics". Living proof of this is Bill Fanning. He has a kind word for everyone and makes the most total stranger feel at home.. You will meet him anywhere there is a little activity in coins - so look for him at club meetings, conventions, or maybe the local coin shop.

Bill was born in Denver, Colorado, on December 1, 1896, and attended school there. In 1912 his family moved to Caspar, Wyoming, following the oil boom. It is hard to imagine the interesting experiences he encountered in Caspar. He helped grade the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; he rode the stagecoaches from Salt Creek to Caspar - 45 miles with one relay station; he even punched cows on the Goosegg Ranch. Yippee, a real live cowboy! At 18 he had full charge of the battery of stills for the Midwest Refining Company and he believes he was the youngest still man ever to refine gasoline.

Caspar, Wyoming, is a pretty cold place, Bill says. One fall while he was out hunting he was caught in a blizzard and was trapped in a miner's cabin for 3 days ending up with frostbitten hands and feet. A sack of flour made into biscuits provided the only food, but it kept him alive. After 8 winters of freezing hands and feet even on his job, he accepted an offer from Standard Oil to transfer to Point Richmond, California, to run their experimental plant.

Later, he worked the gathering hoist underground in the largest coal mine in California. He braved the cold

of Wyoming again in Salt Creek as the trouble shooter for 64 Cooper-Bessemer engines which led to a position as Chief Engineer and Assistant Superintendent at the Export Refining Company, Torrance, California, which was later bought by Signal Oil, then by Standard Oil. He retired in 1958 working for the same company he started with so many years ago.

Bill started his coin collecting as many of us do, going through bank rolls of cents to complete a set. Finally buying his two key coins, he paid $1 for a 1909-S VDB and 85¢ for a 1914-D. Going on into nickels, dimes, etc. finally led to a collection of all kinds of United States coins. He has been very interested in commemoratives - not only the halves, but also the gold. He was one of the first to recognize and evaluate the 1942/1 Mercury dime, and has a few really choice examples. His collections runs from shin plasters to his latest love - patterns, of which he has a remarkably fine collection.

The first club he attended was the Los Angeles Coin Club in 1935 which he joined shortly thereafter becoming member #192. His A.N.A. membership number is 3173 having joined in 1940. He is charter member #2 of Southern Hub, charter member #20 and life member 3 of N.A.S.C., Past President of the Los Angeles Coin Club, member #32 in Orange County, #6 in Culver City, #67 in California State. He was the third president of the N.A.S.C. and is presently the president of the Culver City Coin Club. Numismatists all over remember the terrific job he has done as the chairman of many convention entertainment committees.

Bill also served his Country in the infantry and in the Signal Corps, during World War One.

It's a strange road from a hard riding rootin' tootin' cowboy to a dyed-in-the-wool coin collector -- but Bill has traveled it well.

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Mrs. Grace Brainard has just returned from ANOTHER trip to Florida. That makes 2 this year. What's the attraction there, Gracie? (ed)

## BURIED TREASURE

A most interesting hoard of Spanish gold was discovered by workmen in 1936 along the right bank of the Magdalena river near the city of Honda, Colombia. The city of Honda dates back to the beginning of the 17th century and was one of the more important traffic centers in South America since it was only 67 miles from Bogota.

All the coins found were double Escudos of Philip IV, dated about 1635 and minted at Bogota. The hoard at the time of discovery was estimated at a value of over $15,000 (Colombia Pesos).

The coins closely resemble the Spanish pieces of that period with the addition of the mint mark for the newly established Bogota mint, NRA. (Nuevo Reyno Americano). There were several varieties of these crude coins, the average size of which was 20-22 mm and the average weight 6.75 grams. The obverse was a crowned shield consisting of the arms of Castille-Leon, Aragon-Sicily, Granada, Austria, the two Burgundies, Branbant, Flanders and Tyrol - the later two within a small shield superimposed on the lower third of the shield. Below the shield is a pomegranate representing the Nuevo Reyno de Granada. To the left of the shield are the letters N. R. A. and the value II (Two Escudos) is on the right. The legend reads . PHILIPPVS. IIII. D. G. (Philip IV by the Grace of God). The edge has a pearl border of rough design.

The reverse is a Cross of Jerusalem, four lys in the Quartes, within two four-lobed borders,, with pellets in the four corners. The legend reads . HISPANIARUM . REX. 1635 (King of Spain, 1635).

Since these coins were found in uncirculated condition, is is reasoned that they were probably a shipment of gold specie from the mint at Bogota to the port of Cartagena where Spanish galleons annually picked up the shipments of treasure destined for Spain. It is assumed the shipment was lost while in transport down the river through the rapids by small boat or canoe.

The people of Honda have a slightly different version f where the gold came from and how it got there. Ac- ording to a local Padre the coins were minted and tored in the Viceregal money chests, not intended for holesale circulation.

In 1819 the Viceroy Samano abandoned the capital of ogota having received word of Bolivar's victories in oyaca and the proximity of his armies. The Viceroy ed to the river port of Bodegas de Bogota where the nly transportation was large canoes. It is said he uried the gold as well as jewelry and other valuables or safekeeping. He died shortly afterward and the lo- ation of the treasure was lost. A search party sent rom spain failed to locate it, but the people of Honda ave been looking for it for generations.

-Reprinted in part from "Stack's Numismatic Review, ol. 1, No. 3. By special permission to Karl M. Brainard

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Ralph "Curley" Mitchell is sojourning in the South nd East with his family. We understand at this time e is in Jacksonville, Florida.
Ed's Note; Please keep warm, Curley.)

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Reeded or corrugated edges on coins are used to pro- ct the coins from wear and prevent fraudulent re- oval of metal.
Only silver and gold coins are made with reeded edges hile the nickels and pennies are not because their etals are not as valuable.
All coins, however, are made with a raised border, illed. The milling protects the coin's face from wear.

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Commemorative gold coins were first issued in 1903 r the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

FROM THE DESK OF "SLIM" DUNBAR

Do you have spots in front of your eyes? If so are they large - small, or of the middle variety?

Remember last year we just had tp have a roll of Lincoln Memorial cents before Lincoln's Birthday, even if they were $5.00 or more per roll?

It has almost reached the racket stage; the banks are getting perturbed and our government is wondering how to cope with it. The true Numismatist - "Coin Collector" - is standing on the outer fringes wondering "What do I do now?"

For an answer - he can buy about $4.00 or $6.00 worth of silver made into a medal, authorized by our Government, saying a new state has been added. This medal he can buy for $30.00??-?, or he may buy a bronze one for four dollars and have it silver plated, still that doesn't prove satisfying, nor does it fill the bill.

He picks up his 1893 Columbian half dollar, a commemorative coin that probably cost 2 or 3 dollars, then he begins to realize, "this is solid, it can not be duplicated because it is a good old U.S.A. coin. The history it portrays is everlasting. He doesn't get that feeling from a medal.

The true answer is we need more commemorative coins.

The collector in Portland, Maine as well as collectors throughout the country would liked to have had the story of Portland, Oregon depicted on a commemorative half dollar.

The State of Oregon tried to get a commemorative issued for its recent celebration, but like most recent bills, it recieved the old heave-ho by way of the veto. As a result, we had some 40 odd medals, all different as well as some pieces of cowhide called "a Buck" good for $1.00 in trade in various spots of the state during the celebration. But no long-lasting historical commemorative half-dollar.

Guess we would all like to see commem's come back again, and after a struggle with everybody helping we can probably achieve that goal, but it will be a struggle, and a long one.

Don't forget - awhile back when we were getting commem's they were issuing them year after year commemorating the same anniversary. Complaints were registered. They were misconstrued to mean that commems were not wanted and laws were passed accordingly. Now our first hurdle will be to change, correct or add to these laws. It will take some planning and doing to get proper legislation. One such item is as follows;

Limiting the designs of coins - Section 3510 Revised statutes -

"No change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in twenty-five years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die or hub for the same coin".

We know that was intended for our regular coinage, but it is being used to hold back our commemoratives.

There is work to be done - see you next time.

"SLIM"

Ed. Note - We are reprinting a letter written by Pres. Ben Williams to the NUMISMATIST (page 852, July issue) hoping you and your clubs will follow this through. Reprint of the letter appears on page 4 .

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Paul Weiger just returned from a coin buying tour through Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and as far south as New Orleans, Louisiana. His report is a conglomeration of facts. Temperature at Yuma, Arizona was 118. Rain in Texas - 10 inches in one day. (We would have not been surprised at a report of snow in Louisiana.) Coin-wise he does report the prices are much higher throughout the midwest than they are on the Pacific Coast, so according to Paul, we may look for a rapid advance.

ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB's April meeting had 154 members and guests present. Four new members joined the club. Herb Bergen, Winn Osborn, Ralph Mitchell and Erich Wehrling reported on the C. S. N. A. convention in Stockton. Pres. Dan Harley announced that our club had asked for the C. S. N. A. fall convention to be held at Disneyland in 1964, marking the 25th birthday of Orange County Coin Club. In order to prepare for this event he proposed that a convention fund be started, with the sale of a valuable coin donated to the club for this purpose by Earl Parker of San Francisco.

Program Chairman John Rime introduced Junior member Robert Bartshe, who acted as collector of the month, displaying his fine set of Indian Head cents and giving an account of his work in putting it together.

Maurice Jensen's talk on the 1913 Liberty Nickel was the highlight of the evening. --In the absence of any official mint recond to show that this coin was ever struck by the government, the speaker gave three theories, none with any proof, concerning the origin of the five known copies, 3 in proof and 2 in uncirculated condition, of this rare unauthorized issue. The first public knowledge of their existance was at the 1920 A. N. A. Convention in Chicago. Three years later the set of 5 coins was sold to Cononel Green, son of Hetty Green. They were held by him until 1942, when B. G. Johnson of St. Louis auctioned them singly to various buyers.

The speaker produced a chart showing the original buyer of each piece and the succeeding owners up to the present time. In closing he submitted his own theory that a Philadelphia coin dealer with close connection at the U. S. Mint had these coins struck late in 1919 or 1920.

The audience acclaimed this program as one of the best the club has heard in some time, it showed a great deal of research by the speaker, covering on U. S. coin of questionable origin. Likely there are a few other coins that would have as much interest to the collector as the 1913 Liberty nickel, if someone would make a study.

After Jensen's interesting talk refreshments were served, followed by our regular raffle of prizes and auction of nice coins.

The 263 meeting was held on May 25, 1960. 169 members were present and 11 new members were added to the club.

Guests were Wm. Tragsdorf and Paul Hamm of San Diego, to tell us about the plans being made by San Diego Numismatic Society for the C. S. N. A. Convention to be held there October 27-30, 1960.

President Harley announced that A. N. A. Visual Education Slides #1 of Colonial Coins of America would be shown. Herb Bergen acted as narrator. This program was received with more than usual interest by the large audience. Bergen brought a fine display of Colonial Coins, among these was an original half dollar in copper which is considered to be rare.

--John Stoppelwerth, Ass't Ed., Orange County.

GARDEN GROVE COIN CLUB: The April meeting was devoted to eminent coin experts with talks on coin grading and the consequences of inflation. Jim Lewis, local member and dealer advised members to consider clear standardization of coin grading.

At the May meeting Dr. V. G. Rich of Fullerton displayed a number of European coins whose value had been affected by inflation.

Latest attendance records indicate the G. G. C. C. is just becoming one of the Southlands largest clubs.

Door prizes of greater value are being presented, which have included the scarce 1909-S VDB Lincoln cent and the 1909-S Indian Head cent, along with numerous gold pieces and commemorative halves.

Auction material of the best grade continues to appear every meeting with few if any passes. Greater activity and better prices on the auction seem to be in part due to the fine job of auctioneering by Clive Knight.

Club Pres. Joe Steele states the success of the club depends on the active participation of every member and especially an active executive board.

The club always serves refreshments followed by the auction.

-John Stoppelwerth, GGCC Rep., Ass't Ed., Orange County.

SANTA ANA COIN CLUB election of officers was held during the April meeting. Officers elected were Pres.,

G. Maguire; V. Pres., H. Sitzman; Treas., W. Wisslead; Secretary, T. Carter.

The first order of the May meeting was the installing of new officers. 69 persons were on hand to hear the club business. They were joined by 3 new members and talked of coins with coffee and doughnuts.

The June meeting was one of decisions and more decisions, accompanied by heated debate. The auction rules were modified in respect to who may or may not use the auction board; the number of lots to be allowed per page; and finally, the total number of sheets admitted to any one auction. The past Pres. Clive Knight, was presented an inscribed placque of gratitude for his services. Pres. Maguire made the presentation. Mr. Knight carried the first half of the auction, and was relieved by Terry Carter, who was far from relieved --this being his first attempt at auction !

--John Stoppelwerth, Ass't Ed., Orange County.

EAST LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB: The biggest little club in the country.

1. Crippled Children's Fund - Coins donated by members and auctioned for crippled children. This year we will raise $200.
2. Five brilliant commemoratives given as door prizes. Everyone attending, member or not, gets a ticket.
3. Beautiful wallet (value $2) given free to paid up members.
4. Known speakers.
5. Our raffle tickets are 7 for $1 - prizes are $5 gold, 1909-S Lincoln, 1924-D Lincoln, 1911-S Lincoln.
6. Paid up member whose name is picked from box gets $2. This is an inducement to attend.
7. The best refreshments available - the club recently bought the best 75 cup coffeemaker available.

The club meets the third Monday of every month at 5335 S. Beverly in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

--Walter Snyder

BAY CITIES COIN CLUB has had some informative and interesting meetings lately. In April the A. N. A. slides on U. S. paper money from 1861 to 1923 were shown with Roscoe Fulks displaying his collection of paper

noney. In May the club held its first Book Night. Mem-
ers were invited to bring their favorite numismatic
ooks - this revealed an original Crosby and Monro's
oins of Japan. Book reports were given on the Childs
ook of Coins, Penny Whimsy and Treasury of the
orld's Coins. In June we availed ourselves of the
. N. A. slides on Colonial Coins. Mr. Clyde Grimm
ave an instructive history of each coin as it was shown
rom memory and also displayed his collection of Col-
nial Coins that matched the slides.

--E. Carolyn Nestrick, Secretary.

ULVER CITY COIN CLUB The last meeting was
ighlighted by a discussion of roll collecting, specu-
ting and/or hoarding of coins. The pros and cons of
e debate waxed hot and heavy, with neither side seem-
g to gain an advantage. President Fanning presided
t the meeting which was attended by 62 m mbers and
uests. Refreshments and door prizes as usual. Cul-
er City Coin Club meets the second Thursday of each
onth at the Women's Club House, 3835 Watseka Ave.,
ulver City. --Buford Criswell, Secretary.

ENTRAL COAST COIN CLUB's second anniversary
as held at the I. D. E. S. Hall in San Louis Obispo, May
3rd. Seventy three were present, among them were
everal out of town guests.

Karl M. Brainard was the guest speaker and as always
is talk was enjoyed by all. A. C. Barlow, Leonard
ello and Mr. Cole from Hanford were the exhibit judges.
im Silva was awarded the Best in Show cup, other
inners were Mrs. Hanrion, Cecil Mills, Knud Clausen,
ill Keech and junior members Mike Sheffer and Mike
anchuck. Mr. Kingsbury did a fine job arranging the
xhibits and Mrs. Mills and Mrs. Durbin were in charge
f the refreshments. Plans are being made for next
ears show and we hope it will be bigger and better
ach year. ---W. K. Erdman

ORTH AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY's meeting
as held June 18th with a large attendance. The topic
f displays was "Gold Coins of the World" with some
ery outstanding displays. Anyone wanting to display
ho is a member in good standing, may do so. 1st

place award was won by Frank Merrick; 2nd by Mr. Dawson; 3rd by Mr. Glancy. The drawing for displayers for the 1959 proof set was won by Bill Carroll, club treasurer.

The name capsule drawing for paid-up membership for 5 silver dollars was won by a new member who signed up just before the meeting started.

All door prizes proceed are turned back into door prizes. This meeting with $80 worth, consisted of Austrian 10 ducats unc. gold, France 20 Francs unc. gold, $5 U. S. gold, set of war time nickels in case, South African Crown, 1911-S unc. and 1909-S VDB Lincoln cents, 1959 proof set, 2-1955-S coins in case.

With refreshments, auction, and good fellowship, the meeting came to a close. --Lou Zumwald

ALL AMERICAN COIN CLUB - Our new slogan is "Top of the Clubs." Probably not in numbers, but surely in innovations. Note as follows.

1. No secretary. We are interested in the present and the future.
2. No treasurer. We are Strictly Non-Profit. All money received goes for Door prizes for the next meeting.
3. We operate a Trading Table for the benefit of our members - No Dealers - we cater to collectors.
4. We have a Kids-Face-Value-Table. Material is furnished by the adults, the children choose one item, in turn, by charter membership number and pay only face value for it.
5. We have a limitation of only 25 Charter Members. This was closed at 25 at our third meeting, April 21, 1960.

Of course, we have a regular meeting in addition to our innovations. We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11143 Charlesworth Rd., Santa Fe Springs, Calif. (All American City - one of 11 in the United States). We also have the best looking membership cards - Red, White and Blue. Officers are; C. T. Dodd, President; W. B. Keeny, V. Pres. and N. A. S. C. Rep.; Kids Table, B. Hooghkirk; Trading Judges, E. T. Mc-Holland, D. L. Gunter; Trading Table, H. J. Dodd, B. Pasternak; Membership, H. R. White; Auctioneer, B.

illiron; Refreshments, R. McHolland. The club collects 10¢ per trading item; 10% on auction items, and membership cards are paid for by tickets. Board of rectors are; J. L. Keeney, H.S. Dodd, B. L. McCollum, W. MacDonald, P. Kelley, K. C. Weeks, G. L. Mowray, N. L. Hedricks, and R. Gingras.

. . . . . .

The So. Cal. 1961 convention is starting to take shape we write this. We certainly can look forward to a rger and better convention than we had last year. ersonally I fail to see how we can improve very much the last one, it was terrific. Many letters and coments from those that attended attest to that.

## - TO ALL MEMBERS -

The October Quarterly will publish a list of all N. A. C. members and addresses. Unless your 1960 dues ve been paid, your name will be dropped from the list. rolyn Olson, Corresponding Secretary, 6106 Southe Drive, Los Angeles 22, California.

## CONTEST ? ? ?

Do you want to win a beautiful $10 gold piece? How out a nice $5 gold piece? These are the first and cond awards that will be given for the designing of uitable seal for the Numismatic Association of Southn California. Submit all entries to Ben Williams, 19 N. Coldbrook Ave., Lakewood, Calif. or Carolyn son, 6106 Southside Drive, Los Angeles 22, Calif. ntest closes in September.

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Al Sharkey, a former numismatic distributor of the m Durette and Sharkey known as the Tulsa Coin Co. s killed in a head-on collision recently in Tulsa, lahoma. He will be missed by his many friends.

## SOUTHERN HUB COIN CLUB's Birthday Party

It isn't often this assistant editor gets an opportunity to leave the work behind and take a holiday, but we were fortunate to be able to do so to attend the SOUTHERN HUB COIN CLUB's big Birthday Party.

The entertainment was excellent, and the club members are to be congratulated for putting together such an entertaining afternoon. Since the theme of the party was Hawaiian, colorful shirts, leis, hibiscus blossoms and muu-muus were plentiful. From our vantage point, we could count 3 Hawaiian shirts that Mr. Dunbar was wearing. With Joy's persuasion, he removed two of them, and we were amazed at the vivid colors.

Mrs. Brainard and Mrs. Case were 1st and 2nd award winners with their displays. Mrs. Brainard's display was authentically Hawaiian, with coins of Hawaii, and official Statehood Medals in bronze, silver and gold. In fact, her entire display came from Hawaii, with the exception of the covering in the case, and the case itself. Mrs. Brainard and Mrs. Case were the 1st and 2nd award winners last year also. I don't know how you do it, but nice going girls.

Entertainers were Mr. Al Shore of New York City, the Bogert Sisters, Lafia, Dana the clown, and John and Aurelia, magicians. Lots of fun, and we rather think everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

Mr. Dunbar held forth as the auctioneer, and just as he was getting warmed up, the refreshments were served and there was an exodus to the kitchen.

As we were leaving we heard Joy announce that there was more ice cream and would someone please come and get it for it was melting. Did you ever get rid of it, Joy?

--N. E. Wilson

. A. S. C. Quarterly is published by the Numismatic sociation of Southern California. Original articles publication are respectfully solicited, and should sent to the Editor. Questions concerning numis- tics should be addressed to the Question and Answer tor.. Publication dates are the 15th of January, April y and October, and deadline is three weeks prior date of publication. Address all communications to l M. Brainard, 3856 McLaughlin, Los Angeles 66, ifornia.

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